

526,354

(12) INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION PUBLISHED UNDER THE PATENT COOPERATION TREATY (PCT)

(19) World Intellectual Property
Organization
International Bureau



(43) International Publication Date
11 March 2004 (11.03.2004)

PCT

(10) International Publication Number
WO 2004/020644 A1

- (51) International Patent Classification⁷: **C12N 15/86**
- (21) International Application Number: **PCT/EP2003/009689**
- (22) International Filing Date:
1 September 2003 (01.09.2003)
- (25) Filing Language: English
- (26) Publication Language: English
- (30) Priority Data:
02019453.6 30 August 2002 (30.08.2002) EP
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- (81) Designated States (*national*): AE, AG, AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BY, BZ, CA, CH, CN, CO, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM, DZ, EC, EE, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MA, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, MZ, NI, NO, NZ, OM, PG, PH, PL, PT, RO, RU, SC, SD, SE, SG, SK, SL, SY, TJ, TM, TN, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, US, UZ, VC, VN, YU, ZA, ZM, ZW.
- (84) Designated States (*regional*): ARIPO patent (GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, MZ, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZM, ZW), Eurasian patent (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European patent (AT, BE, BG, CH, CY, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, HU, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PT, RO, SE, SI, SK, TR), OAPI patent (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GQ, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).
- Published:
— with international search report
- For two-letter codes and other abbreviations, refer to the "Guidance Notes on Codes and Abbreviations" appearing at the beginning of each regular issue of the PCT Gazette.

(54) Title: NON-HUMAN HERPESVIRUSES AS VECTORS

(57) Abstract: The present invention relates to animal viruses such as animal herpesviruses as a vector for diagnostic, therapeutic and prophylactic delivery of foreign genes and nucleic acids to animals, human or primary cells derived thereof, respectively. By using said viruses, the prevention and treatment of infectious, autoimmune and tumor diseases as well as allergies and genetic disorders can be treated. The present invention relates further to procedures to efficiently transduce primary human cells with recombinant animal viruses in vitro and in vivo. The invention further relates to a kit useful (i) for diagnosis and monitoring of innate and adoptive immune responses as well as (ii) for gene therapy and (iii) immunization purposes.

WO 2004/020644 A1